

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 2105

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, DA, AU
SUBJECT: NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK: ERNST LUEGMAYER

1. FOLLOWING IS BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON DR. ERNST LUEGMAYER WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN APPOINTED AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK.

2. A CAREER DIPLOMAT, LUEGMAYER HAS SINCE 1974 BEEN DEPUTY CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT, RESPONSIBLE FOR, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PLANNING AND ORGANIZATIONAL REFORM, AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS. HAVING HELD RANK OF AMBASSADOR SINCE 1958, HE HAS BEEN AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR IN ISRAEL (1958-1962), SWEDEN (1967-1969) AND NORWAY (1969-1974). EARLIER OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENTS WERE TO TURKEY (1952-1956) AND BERLIN, WHERE HE HEADED THE AUSTRIAN MISSION FROM 1956-1958.

3. BORN 23 NOVEMBER 1914 IN VIENNA, LUEGMAYER'S INITIAL STUDIES AND FIRST CAREER WERE IN THE FIELDS OF ENGINEERING AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT. HE RECEIVED FROM VIENNA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY A DEGREE IN ENGINEERING IN 1936 AND A DOCTORATE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN 1952 AND EARNED A DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE AFTER JOINING FOREIGN MINISTRY.

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4. LUEGMAYER WORKED BRIEFLY BEFORE ENTERING MILITARY SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II AS A PLANNING ENGINEER WITH LARGE GERMAN ELECTRONICS FIRM AEG-UNION. AFTER WAR HE JOINED AUSTRIAN CIVIL SERVICE, BEING ASSIGNED FIRST TO MINISTRY OF TRADE AND RECONSTRUCTION, AND LATER, IN 1951, MOVING TO FOREIGN MINISTRY. IN 1963 LUEGMAYER RETURNED TO MINISTRY OF TRADE AND RECONSTRUCTION FOR

FOUR YEARS UNTIL BEING POSTED AS AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN
IN 1967.

5. EMBASSY HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH LUEGMAYER BUT IN
BIO REPORT WRITTEN AT THE END OF HIS TOUR IN ISRAEL,
LUEGMAYER WAS CHARACTERIZED BY AN EMBASSY TEL AVIV
OFFICER AS FORMAL AND RESERVED. ALTHOUGH
SEEMINGLY FRIENDLY, HIS STIFF ATTITUDE DID NOT INVITE
OVERTURES OR CONFIDENCES. HE AND HIS WIFE WERE
INDEFATIGABLE ATTENDERS OF NATIONAL DAY RECEPTIONS
AND THE LIKE BUT HIS BEHAVIOR AT SUCH FUNCTIONS WAS
RATHER PASSIVE.

6. LUEGMAYER IS MARRIED TO GUSTAVA, NEE VON SENSEL,
AND THEY HAVE THREE DAUGHTERS. AGAIN IN ISRAEL, IT
WAS OBSERVED THAT MRS. LUEGMAYER, BY HER PLEASANT AND
AGREEABLE MANNER, WAS PERHAPS ATTEMPTING TO OVERCOME
SOME OF THE SEVERITY AND ARIDITY CREATED BY HER
HUSBAND. MRS. LUEGMAYER WAS REPORTEDLY VERY GOOD AT
BRIDGE.

7. POUCHING PHOTO AND GERMAN BIO SKETCH.BUCHANAN

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